

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

SENATE BILL NO. 984

94TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR SHOEMYER.

Read 1st time January 22, 2008, and ordered printed.

TERRY L. SPIELER, Secretary.

3928S.011

AN ACT

To repeal section 173.250, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof one new section relating to a higher education academic scholarship program.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Section 173.250, RSMo, is repealed and one new section
2 enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as section 173.250, to read as follows:

173.250. 1. There is hereby established a "Higher Education Academic
2 Scholarship Program" and any moneys appropriated by the general assembly for
3 this program shall be used to provide scholarships for Missouri citizens to attend
4 a Missouri college or university of their choice pursuant to the provisions of this
5 section.

6 2. The definitions of terms set forth in section [173.205] **173.1102** shall
7 be applicable to such terms as used in this section. The term "academic
8 scholarship" means an amount of money paid by the state of Missouri to a
9 qualified college or university student who has demonstrated superior academic
10 achievement pursuant to the provisions of this section.

11 3. The coordinating board for higher education shall be the administrative
12 agency for the implementation of the program established by this section, and
13 shall:

14 (1) Promulgate reasonable rules and regulations for the exercise of its
15 functions and the effectuation of the purposes of this section, including
16 regulations for granting scholarship deferments;

17 (2) Prescribe the form and the time and method of awarding academic
18 scholarships, and shall supervise the processing thereof; and

19 (3) Select qualified recipients to receive academic scholarships, make such

EXPLANATION—Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in this bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

20 awards of academic scholarships to qualified recipients and determine the
21 manner and method of payment to the recipient.

22 4. A student shall be eligible for **an** initial or renewed academic
23 scholarship if he or she is in compliance with the eligibility requirements set
24 forth in section [173.215] **173.1107** excluding the requirement of financial need
25 and undergraduate status[, and]. In addition [meets] the following **eligibility**
26 requirements **apply**:

27 (1) Initial academic scholarships shall be offered **to Missouri residents**
28 in the academic year immediately following [graduation from high school to
29 Missouri high school seniors whose composite scores on the American College
30 Testing Program (ACT) or the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) of the College
31 Board are in the top five percent of all Missouri students taking those tests
32 during the school year in which the scholarship recipients graduate from high
33 school. In the freshman year of college, scholarship recipients are required to
34 maintain status as a full-time student] **completion of secondary coursework**
35 **through receipt of a General Education Development (GED) certificate**
36 **or graduation from high school;**

37 (2) [Academic scholarships are renewable if the recipient remains in
38 compliance with the applicable provisions of section 173.215 and the recipient
39 makes satisfactory academic degree progress as a full-time student] **Initial**
40 **academic scholarship applicants shall, by the June national test date**
41 **of the year they complete their secondary coursework, achieve a**
42 **qualifying score on the ACT or SAT. A qualifying score is a composite**
43 **score that is comparable to that achieved by the top three percent of**
44 **test takers who took the tests as high school sophomores, junior, or**
45 **seniors and who were Missouri high school seniors during the year**
46 **prior to the applicant's final year of secondary coursework. The**
47 **minimum qualifying scores shall be determined annually. Beginning**
48 **with fiscal year 2011 and every fiscal year thereafter, the composite**
49 **score on the ACT or SAT shall be comparable to the top five percent;**

50 (3) In the freshman year of college, scholarship recipients are
51 required to maintain status as full-time students;

52 (4) Satisfactory academic progress for renewal scholarship
53 recipients shall be a minimum of a cumulative grade point average of
54 two and a half on a four point scale or the equivalent on another scale.

55 5. A student who is enrolled or has been accepted for enrollment as a

56 postsecondary student at an approved private or public institution [beginning
57 with the fall 1987, term] **in Missouri** and who meets the other eligibility
58 requirements for an academic scholarship shall, within the limits of the funds
59 appropriated and made available, be offered an **initial** academic scholarship [in
60 the amount of two thousand dollars for each eligible student whose composite
61 scores American College Testing Program (ACT) or the Scholastic Aptitude Test
62 (SAT) of the College Board are in the top three percent of all Missouri students
63 taking those tests during the school year in which the scholarship recipients
64 graduate from high school for each fiscal year prior to fiscal year 2011, and,
65 subject to appropriations, three thousand dollars for fiscal year 2011 and every
66 fiscal year thereafter, and one thousand dollars for fiscal year 2011 and every
67 fiscal year thereafter for each eligible student whose composite scores on the
68 American College Testing Program (ACT) or the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT)
69 of the College Board are between the top five and three percent of all Missouri
70 students taking those tests during the school year in which the scholarship
71 recipients graduate from high school, for the first academic year of study, which
72 scholarship shall be renewable in the amount of two thousand dollars for each
73 eligible student whose composite scores on the American College Testing Program
74 (ACT) or the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) of the College Board are in the top
75 three percent of all Missouri students taking those tests during the school year
76 in which the scholarship recipients graduate from high school for each fiscal year
77 prior to fiscal year 2011, and, subject to appropriations, three thousand dollars
78 for fiscal year 2011 and every fiscal year thereafter, and one thousand dollars for
79 fiscal year 2011 and every fiscal year thereafter for each eligible student whose
80 composite scores on the American College Testing Program (ACT) or the
81 Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT) of the College Board are between the top five and
82 three percent of all Missouri students taking those tests during the school year
83 in which the scholarship recipients graduate from high school, annually] **that is**
84 **based on the student's ACT or SAT score and the year in which the**
85 **scholarship is awarded.**

86 **(1) Beginning with fiscal year 1988 and continuing through fiscal**
87 **year 2010, a student who, by the June national test date of the year**
88 **they complete their secondary coursework, has achieved an ACT or SAT**
89 **score that, during the year prior to their final year of secondary**
90 **coursework, was in the top three percent of Missouri high school**
91 **seniors taking those tests, shall be offered an initial academic**

92 scholarship in the amount of two thousand dollars annually.

93 (2) Beginning with fiscal year 2011 and every fiscal year
94 thereafter, a student who, by the June national test date of the year
95 they complete their secondary coursework, has achieved an ACT or SAT
96 score that, during the year prior to their final year of secondary
97 coursework, was in the top three percent of Missouri high school
98 seniors taking those tests, shall be offered an initial academic
99 scholarship in the amount of three thousand dollars annually.

100 (3) Beginning with fiscal year 2011 and every fiscal year
101 thereafter, a student who, by the June national test date of the year
102 they complete their secondary coursework, has achieved an ACT or SAT
103 score that, during the year prior to their final year of secondary
104 coursework, was between the top five and three percent of Missouri
105 high school seniors taking those tests, shall be offered an initial
106 academic scholarship in the amount of one thousand dollars annually.

107 **6. Academic scholarships for students who meet all of the**
108 **eligibility requirements are renewable annually** for the second, third [and],
109 fourth **and fifth** academic years or as long as the recipient [is] **remains** in
110 compliance with the applicable eligibility requirements set forth in section
111 **[173.215] 173.1104**, provided those years of study are continuous and the
112 student continues to meet eligibility requirements for the scholarship[]; provided,
113 however, if a recipient ceases all attendance at an approved public or private
114 institution for the purpose of providing service to a nonprofit organization, a state
115 or federal government agency or any branch of the armed forces of the United
116 States, the recipient shall be eligible for a renewal scholarship upon return to any
117 approved public or private institution, provided the recipient:

118 (1) Returns to full-time status within twenty-seven months;

119 (2) Provides verification in compliance with coordinating board for higher
120 education rules that the service to the nonprofit organization was satisfactorily
121 completed and was not compensated other than for expenses or that the service
122 to the state or federal governmental agency or branch of the armed forces of the
123 United States was satisfactorily completed; and

124 (3) Meets all other requirements established for eligibility to receive a
125 renewal scholarship.

126 **6.] including satisfactory academic progress as a full-time**
127 **student. Renewal recipients shall be offered an academic scholarship**

128 in an amount that is based on the student's ACT or SAT score and the
129 year in which the renewal scholarship is awarded.

130 (1) Beginning with fiscal year 1988 and continuing through fiscal
131 year 2010, a student who, by the June national test date of the year
132 they complete their secondary coursework, has achieved an ACT or SAT
133 score that, during the year prior to their final year of secondary
134 coursework, was in the top three percent of Missouri high school
135 seniors taking those tests, shall be offered a renewal academic
136 scholarship in the amount of two thousand dollars annually.

137 (2) Beginning with fiscal year 2011 and every fiscal year
138 thereafter, a student who, by the June national test date of the year
139 they complete their secondary coursework, has achieved an ACT or SAT
140 score that, during the year prior to their final year of secondary
141 coursework, was in the top three percent of Missouri high school
142 seniors taking those tests, shall be offered a renewal academic
143 scholarship in the amount of three thousand dollars annually.

144 (3) Beginning with fiscal year 2011 and every fiscal year
145 thereafter, a student who, by the June national test date of the year
146 they complete their secondary coursework, has achieved an ACT or SAT
147 score that, during the year prior to their final year of secondary
148 coursework, was between the top five and three percent of Missouri
149 high school seniors taking those tests, shall be offered a renewal
150 academic scholarship in the amount of one thousand dollars annually.

151 7. A recipient of an academic scholarship awarded under this section may
152 transfer from one approved Missouri public or private institution to another
153 without losing eligibility for the scholarship. If a recipient of the scholarship at
154 any time withdraws from an approved private or public institution so that under
155 the rules and regulations of that institution he or she is entitled to a refund of
156 any tuition, fees or other charges, the institution shall pay the portion of the
157 refund attributable to the scholarship for that term to the coordinating board for
158 higher education.

159 8. Academic scholarships for eligible students who cease all
160 attendance at an approved public or private institution for the purpose
161 of providing service to a nonprofit organization, a state or federal
162 government agency or any branch of the armed forces of the United
163 States shall be eligible for a renewal scholarship upon return to any
164 approved public or private institution, provided the recipient:

165 **(1) Returns to full-time status within twenty-seven months;**

166 **(2) Provides verification in compliance with coordinating board**
167 **for higher education rules that the service to the nonprofit**
168 **organization was satisfactorily completed and was not compensated**
169 **other than for expenses or that the service to the state or federal**
170 **governmental agency or branch of the armed forces of the United**
171 **States was satisfactorily completed; and**

172 **(3) Meets all other requirements established for eligibility to**
173 **receive a renewal scholarship.**

174 **[7.] 9.** Other provisions of this section to the contrary notwithstanding,
175 if a recipient has been awarded an initial academic scholarship pursuant to the
176 provisions of this section but is unable to use the scholarship during the first
177 academic year because of illness, disability, pregnancy or other medical need or
178 if a recipient ceases all attendance at an approved public or private institution
179 because of illness, disability, pregnancy or other medical need, the recipient shall
180 be eligible for an initial or renewal scholarship upon enrollment in or return to
181 any approved public or private institution, provided the recipient:

182 (1) Enrolls in or returns to full-time status within twenty-seven months;

183 (2) Provides verification in compliance with coordinating board for higher
184 education rules of sufficient medical evidence documenting an illness, disability,
185 pregnancy or other medical need of such person to require that that person will
186 not be able to use the initial or renewal scholarship during the time period for
187 which it was originally offered; and

188 (3) Meets all other requirements established for eligibility to receive an
189 initial or a renewal scholarship.

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